IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BEDNARIK et al.

Appl. No.

08/917,710

Filed: August 26, 1997

For:

Soluble Interleukin-1 Receptor

Accessory Molecule

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: Draper, G.

Atty. Docket: 1488.0450001

7/a

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

At page 7, line 17, please delete "12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20852" and insert therefor —Patent Depository, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209--.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 2-5 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend the following claims:

In claim 6 at line 2, please delete "claim 1" and insert therefor --claim 20--.

Please add the following new claims:

An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide selected from the

group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -17 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;

a² Bi